



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*Southern District of Indiana*

*United States Attorney*

*10 West Market Street*

*(317)226-6333*

*Suite 2100*

*Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3048*

*TDD (317)226-5438*

*FAX NUMBERS:*

*Criminal (317)226-6125*

*Administration (317)226-5176*

*Civil (317)226-5027*

*FLU (317) 226-6133*

*OCDETF (317)226-5953*

**May 13, 2005**

**CONTACT PERSON:**

**SUSAN W. BROOKS**

**United States Attorney**

**(317) 226-6333**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**ILLINOIS MAN SENTENCED FOR MAKING FALSE  
STATEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE PURCHASE OF A  
FIREARM**

**PRESS RELEASE**

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that MICHAEL PHILLIPPI, 40, of Illinois, was sentenced to 50 months' imprisonment today by U.S. District Judge John Daniel Tinder following his conviction at trial February 24, 2005, for making a false statement in connection with the purchase of a firearm. This case was the result of a investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and part of the Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative.

On September 14, 2003, PHILLIPPI attempted to purchase a 12 gauge shotgun at Poff's Sporting Goods, Inc., a federally licensed firearms dealer in Terre Haute, Indiana. PHILLIPPI was required to complete an BATF Form 4473, Firearm Transaction Record in connection with the purchase. In completing the form, PHILLIPPI stated that he was not then

under an information or indictment for a felony offense in any federal, state, or local court.

This answer was false, because PHILLIPPI was then under an information for a felony offense in four separate cases in four separate state courts. PHILLIPPI never took possession of the shotgun, because the salesclerk at Poff's submitted PHILLIPPI's biographical information to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System which denied the sale.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Joe H. Vaughn, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Tinder also imposed 3 years supervised release following PHILLIPPI's release from imprisonment. During the period of supervised release, PHILLIPPI must undergo anger management counseling and get drug treatment for an addiction to prescription pain medication. PHILLIPPI was fined in the amount of \$15,000.

###